ORIGINAL

COMMISSIONERS
KRISTIN K. MAYES – Chairman
GARY PIERCE
PAUL NEWMAN
SANDRA D. KENNEDY
BOB STUMP





**Executive Director** 

### ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

DATE:

**SEPTEMBER 30, 2009** 

DOCKET NO:

W-01732A-09-0182

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

SEP \$ 0 2009

TO ALL PARTIES:

Enclosed please find the recommendation of Administrative Law Judge Dwight D. Nodes. The recommendation has been filed in the form of an Order on:

# WILLOW VALLEY WATER CO., INC. (FINANCE)

Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-3-110(B), you may file exceptions to the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge by filing an original and thirteen (13) copies of the exceptions with the Commission's Docket Control at the address listed below by <u>4:00</u> p.m. on or before:

### **OCTOBER 9, 2009**

The enclosed is <u>NOT</u> an order of the Commission, but a recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge to the Commissioners. Consideration of this matter has <u>tentatively</u> been scheduled for the Commission's Open Meeting to be held on:

OCTOBER 20, 2009 and OCTOBER 21, 2009

For more information, you may contact Docket Control at (602)542-3477 or the Hearing Division at (602)542-4250. For information about the Open Meeting, contact the Executive Director's Office at (602) 542-3931.

RECEIVED

2009 SEP 30 A 10: 23

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

ERNEST G. JOHNSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1200 WEST WASHINGTON STREET; PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007-2927 / 400 WEST CONGRESS STREET; TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701-1347

WWW.AZCC.QOV

This document is available in alternative formats by contacting Shaylin Bernal, ADA Coordinator, voice phone number 602-542-3931, E-mail SABernal@azcc.gov

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1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 2 COMMISSIONERS 3 KRISTIN K. MAYES, Chairman **GARY PIERCE** PAUL NEWMAN SANDRA D. KENNEDY 5 **BOB STUMP** 6 DOCKET NO. W-01732A-09-0182 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF 7 WILLOW VALLEY WATER CO., INC. FOR DECISION NO. FINANCING APPROVAL IN CONNECTION 8 WITH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND **ORDER** REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009. Open Meeting 10 October 20, and 21, 2009 Phoenix, Arizona 11 BY THE COMMISSION: 12 Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the 13 Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") finds, concludes, and orders that: 14 15 FINDINGS OF FACT 16 On April 17, 2009, Willow Valley Water Co., Inc. ("Willow Valley" or "Company") 1. 17 filed an application with the Commission for authorization to execute a loan agreement with the 18 Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona ("WIFA").1 19 Willow Valley is a for-profit Class "C" Arizona public service corporation that 2. 20 provides water service to approximately 1,588 customers in portions of Mohave County, Arizona. Of 21 those customers, 1,518 are 5/8 X 3/4-inch residential customers. Willow Valley is an operating 22 company subsidiary of Global Water Management, LLC. 23 On May 19, 2009, the Company filed an affidavit of publication verifying that it 3. 24

of general circulation in the Mohave County, Arizona area.

1 This application was filed to take advantage of federal "stimulus" funds provided under the American Recovery and

published notice of its application on May 10, 2009, in the Mohave Valley Daily News, a publication

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This application was filed to take advantage of federal "stimulus" funds provided under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("ARRA"), the distribution of which is being administered by WIFA for capital projects undertaken by water and wastewater utilities in Arizona.

- 4. 5. appropriate. 6. 7.
  - 4. On July 15, 2009, the Commission's Utilities Division ("Staff") issued a Staff Report recommending approval of the application subject to, among other things, a requirement that Willow Valley achieve a Debt Service Coverage<sup>2</sup> ("DSC") ratio of at least 1.20 prior to obtaining the loan.
  - 5. On February 17, 2009, the ARRA went into effect. WIFA's Supplemental 2009 ARRA Intended Use Plan shows that the ARRA authorizes WIFA to provide an additional subsidy on loans, which can include forgivable principal and/or additional interest rate subsidies. In addition, the Supplemental 2009 ARRA Intended Use Plan provides that projects that receive ARRA funds would need to be capable of moving forward rapidly and, hence, expedited regulatory consideration is appropriate.
  - 6. In its application, Willow Valley requested authority to obtain a WIFA loan in the amount of \$435,000 to fund a meter replacement program. According to the Company, its meters are outdated and the new replacement meters would enable Willow Valley to obtain remote readings.
  - 7. As described in the Staff Engineering Report, Willow Valley has historically experienced high levels of iron and manganese in its distribution system. Although the Company has now remedied the iron and manganese issue through a treatment process, Staff indicates that iron and manganese has accumulated over many years in the current meters necessitating their replacement. Staff stated that many of the meters are more than 30 years old and replacement should enable Willow Valley to more accurately track water use and thereby reduce the amount of unaccounted for water on the system. As described above, the new meters would also eliminate the current manual reading process and reduce labor and other operating costs associated with meter reading. The Company's estimated costs for the mater replacement project, as set forth in the Staff Report, are as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> DSC represents the number of times internally generated cash will cover required principal and interest payments on short-term and long-term debt. A DSC greater than 1.0 indicates that cash flow from operations is sufficient to cover debt obligations. A DSC less than 1.0 means that debt service obligations cannot be met by cash generated from operations and that another source of funds is needed to avoid default.

	Uses by Budget Item	WIFA Funding
1 Pl	anning	
2	Meter Selection Planning	\$ 5,000.00
	GIS Mapping	10,000.00
3	Meter Audit	2,500.00
	Determine AMR Technology	5,000.00
4	Installation Planning	12,500.00
5 <b>D</b>	esign & Engineering	N/A
	egal/Debt Authorization	N/A
6 Fi	inancial Advisor	N/A
L	and/System Acquisition	N/A
	quipment/Materials	
8	Meter Materials – Mountain States, PO62208001(01)	155,824.24
	AMR Radio Heads	144,175.76
9 C	onstruction/Installation/Improvement	
	Installation (Local Operators)	50,000.00
10 In	spection & Construction Management	
11	Construction Inspection	25,000.00
11 P	roject Officer	
12	Site Project Manager	20,000.00
A	dministration	
13	Administration	5,000.00
14 S1	taff Training	N/A
14 -	apitalized Interest	N/A
H	ther	N/A
T	otal for Project	\$435,000.00
16 📅	41 . C. CC 117/11 11 11	41 Commission anthonias it to

8. According to Staff, Willow Valley requested that the Commission authorize it to secure WIFA financing in an amount not to exceed \$435,000, with an anticipated 20-year amortizing loan and an interest rate of 5.25 percent per annum (based on the current prime rate of 3.25 percent plus 2.00 percent). The Staff Report also indicates that \$174,000 (40 percent) of the loan would be comprised of forgivable principal, and \$261,000 as repayable indebtedness.

9. Staff states that, as of December 31, 2008, Willow Valley's capital structure consisted of 0.6 percent short-term debt, 7.7 percent long-term debt, and 91.7 percent equity, and that the Company's DSC ratio was negative. Staff's pro forma financial analysis indicates that with the proposed WIFA loan, the Company's capital structure would consist of 0.9 percent short-term debt, 20.0 percent long-term debt, and 79.1 percent equity. Staff's pro forma analysis further shows that the Company's DSC would continue to be negative with receipt of the WIFA loan.

10. According to Staff, the Company would require an additional \$97,308 of revenue to

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achieve a 1.203 DSC ratio based on a loan of \$435,000, and additional revenue of \$80,443 to reach a DSC of 1.20 on a loan of \$261,000 (which assumes 40 percent forgivable principal and compliance with ARRA requirements). In order to receive revenues sufficient to achieve a 1.20 DSC ratio, Staff calculated that additional monthly surcharges of \$4.44 for a \$435,000 loan and \$3.67 for a \$261,000 loan would be required.

- Because implementation of an interim rate (i.e., a surcharge) requires a fair value rate 11. base ("FVRB") finding, Staff calculated Willow Valley's FVRB to be \$2.8 million based on the Company's unaudited financial information filed in this proceeding. Staff indicates that its FVRB calculation was determined for the sole purpose of establishing an interim surcharge sufficient to achieve a 1.20 DSC ratio. However, Staff stated that because it has not audited the information provided by the Company, Staff could make no assurances regarding the accuracy of the FVRB for purposes of Willow Valley's pending rate case (Docket No. W-01732A-09-0079). Staff also indicated that it expects any surcharges adopted by the Commission in this financing case would be supplanted by the permanent rates ultimately established in Willow Valley's rate case.
- On July 27, 2009, the administrative law judge convened a transcribed telephonic 12. procedural conference with counsel for Willow Valley and Staff. During that conference, Staff and the Company agreed that if the Company provided adequate notice to its customers of the projected interim surcharge, in a form agreed to by Staff (and if no requests for intervention were received), the Commission could conduct a "mini-hearing" during its Open Meeting to satisfy the hearing requirement set forth in A.R.S. §40-250(A).
- On August 5, 2009, the Company filed a proposed form of notice, agreed to by Staff, 13. and requested that the notice be approved. On August 19, 2009, a Procedural Order was issued that directed Willow Valley to mail to each of its customers and publish in a newspaper of general circulation in its service territory the notice attached to the Procedural Order. The approved notice set forth in bold print that a monthly surcharge of \$3.67 would be implemented. The notice also directed interested persons to submit comments or request intervention by no later than September

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Staff points out that WIFA requires a Debt Service Reserve Fund equal to 20 percent of debt service. Therefore, based on WIFA's requirement, Willow Valley would need sufficient revenues to achieve a DSC ratio of at least 1.20.

1 11, 2009.

- 14. On August 31, 2009, Willow Valley filed affidavits of mailing and publication<sup>4</sup>. The affidavits state that the required notice was published in the *Mohave Valley Daily News* on August 23, 2009 and that the notice was mailed to each of the Company's customers on August 27, 2009. To date, no comments or requests for intervention have been received regarding this matter.
- 15. Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C.") R18-15-104 requires WIFA borrowers to pledge their revenue sources to repay the financial assistance. A.R.S. § 40-285 requires public service corporations to obtain Commission authorization to encumber certain utility assets. Staff states that the statute serves to protect captive customers from a utility's act to dispose of any of its assets that are necessary for the provision of service, and thus, it serves to preempt any service impairment due to disposal of assets essential for providing service. Staff states further that pledging assets as security typically provides benefits to the borrower in the way of increased access to capital funds or preferable interest rates, and it is often an unavoidable condition of procuring funds for small or financially stressed entities.
- 16. Staff concluded that issuance of the proposed debt financing for the purposes stated in the application is within the Company's corporate powers, is compatible with the public interest, is consistent with sound financial practices and will not impair its ability to provide service, assuming Willow Valley is able to attain a DSC ratio of 1.20 or greater. Staff recommends that Willow Valley be authorized to incur debt in an amount not exceed \$435,000, for a period of 18 to 22 years, pursuant to a loan agreement with WIFA that provides for 40 percent (\$174,000) of the principal amount to become forgivable upon compliance with the ARRA.
- 17. Staff concluded that the Company's proposed capital projects are appropriate and that the cost estimates provided by Willow Valley are reasonable. However, Staff made no "used and useful" determination of the proposed capital projects for ratemaking or rate base purposes.
  - 18. As a condition of approval, Staff also recommends that:
    - a. Willow Valley be authorized to engage in any transactions and to

DECISION NO.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The affidavits of mailing and publication, including the text of the notice, are attached to this Order as Exhibit 1.

- execute any documents necessary to effectuate the authorizations granted herein;
- b. Willow Valley be authorized to pledge its assets in the State of Arizona pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-285 and A.A.C. R18-15-104 in connection with the WIFA loan;
- c. the authorization to incur debt granted by this Decision terminate on December 31, 2012;
- d. Willow Valley be required to use its best efforts and to act in good faith to comply with all the requirements of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and all requirements of WIFA in order to obtain the 40 percent forgivable principal;
- e. Willow Valley file with Docket Control, as a compliance item in this docket, copies of the loan documentation within 60 days of the execution of any financing transaction authorized herein;
- f. the Commission take the regulatory measures it deems appropriate due to any detrimental consequences to ratepayers that may result from the Company's failure to use best efforts and act in good faith to comply with the ARRA that results in a reduction in the amount of the loan that would otherwise qualify as forgivable principal;
- g. Willow Valley be authorized to implement an interim surcharge of \$3.67 per month for 5/8 X ¾-inch customers and corresponding surcharge amounts for customers served by larger meters, in accordance with the meter multiple calculations set forth on Schedule JCM-3 of the Staff Report, attached hereto as Exhibit 2; and
- h. Willow Valley be required to maintain accurate records to segregate the amount of any refundable, interim revenues generated.
- 19. According to Staff, Willow Valley also requested authorization to use various forms of refinancing as long as total long-term indebtedness at any time would not exceed \$435,000 in 2009, or thereafter. Staff recommended that the Company's request be denied because of Staff's opinion that blanket refinancing authorizations should be approved sparingly in order for the Commission to retain oversight of debt issuances.
  - 20. Staff's recommendations are reasonable and should be approved.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Willow Valley is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-285, 40-301, 40-302, and 40-303.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Willow Valley and of the subject matter of the application.

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DECISION NO.

- 3. Notice of the application was given in accordance with the law.
- 4. The financing as approved herein is for lawful purposes within Willow Valley's corporate powers, is compatible with the public interest, with sound financial practices, and with the proper performance by Willow Valley of service as a public service corporation, and will not impair the Company's ability to perform the service.
- 5. For the sole and limited purpose of calculating and approving an interim surcharge in order to provide Willow Valley revenues sufficient to achieve a 1.20 DSC ratio, we determine the Company's FVRB to be \$2.8 million. However, because the FVRB information provided by the Company has not been audited, no assurances regarding the accuracy of the FVRB for purposes of Willow Valley's pending rate case (Docket No. W-01732A-09-0079) are being made in this proceeding. The surcharges in this financing case will be supplanted by the permanent rates ultimately established in Willow Valley's pending rate case (Docket No. W-01732A-09-0079).
- 6. Willow Valley is authorized to implement an interim surcharge of \$3.67 per month for 5/8 X ¾-inch customers and corresponding surcharge amounts for customers served by larger meters, in accordance with the meter multiple calculations set forth on Schedule JCM-3 of the Staff Report.
- 7. Willow Valley provided proper notice to its customers of the projected interim surcharge associated with the financing application, in a form agreed to by Staff, and the Commission's consideration of this matter during a duly noticed Open Meeting satisfies the hearing requirement set forth in A.R.S. §40-250(A).
- 8. The financing approved herein is for the purposes stated in the application, is reasonably necessary for those purposes and such purposes may not be reasonably chargeable to operating expenses or to income.
  - 9. Staff's recommendations are reasonable and should be adopted.

#### ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. is hereby authorized to incur long-term indebtedness in an amount up to \$435,000 pursuant to a loan agreement with WIFA, under which 40 percent of the principal amount would become forgivable principal upon compliance with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, at an interest rate not to exceed the

current WIFA subsidized rate at the time the loan is executed, for the purpose of funding a meter replacement program, and related facilities as described in the application.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. shall use best efforts and act in good faith to comply with all requirements of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and all requirements of WIFA in order to obtain the forgivable principal loan.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. fails to use best efforts and to act in good faith to comply with the ARRA, resulting in a failure to qualify for the forgivable principal associated with the loan, the Commission shall take the regulatory measures it deems appropriate, including but not limited to disallowing recovery for ratemaking purposes of the amount of the loan that would otherwise have qualified for the reduced WIFA interest rate.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. is authorized to implement an interim surcharge of \$3.67 per month for 5/8 X ¾-inch customers and corresponding surcharge amounts for customers served by larger meters, in accordance with the meter multiple calculations set forth on Schedule JCM-3 of the Staff Report, as attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. shall maintain accurate records to segregate the amount of any refundable, interim revenues generated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the finance authority granted herein is expressly contingent upon Willow Valley Water Company, Inc.'s use of the proceeds for the purposes stated in the application and approved herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. is authorized to pledge its assets in the state of Arizona pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-285 and A.A.C. R18-15-104 in connection with the loan approved herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. is authorized to engage in any transactions and to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the authorizations granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. shall file with Docket Control, as a compliance item in this docket, copies of all executed financing documents related to this authority within 60 days after the date of execution.

l l								
1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the authorization to incur debt granted by this Decision							
2	shall terminate on December 31, 2012.							
3	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the request by Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. for							
4	authorization to use various forms of refinancing as long as total long-term indebtedness at any time							
5	would not exceed \$435,000 in 2009, or thereafter, is denied.							
6	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that approval of the financing set forth hereinabove does not							
7	constitute or imply approval or disapproval by the Commission of any particular expenditure of the							
8	proceeds derived thereby for purposes of establishing just and reasonable rates.							
9	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.							
10	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION.							
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12	CHAIDMANI COMMISSIONER							
13	CHAIRMAN							
14	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER							
15	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER							
16	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, ERNEST G. JOHNSON, Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission,							
17	have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of							
18	Phoenix, this day of, 2009.							
19								
20	ERNEST G. JOHNSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR							
21	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR							
22	DISSENT							
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1	SERVICE LIST FOR:	WILLOW VALLEY WATER COMPANY, INC.
2	DOCKET NO.:	W-01732A-09-0182
3		
4	Michael W. Patten Timothy B. Sabo	
5	ROSHKA, DEWULF & PATTEN, PLC One Arizona Center	
6	400 E. Van Buren, Suite 800 Phoenix, AZ 85004	
7	Attorneys for Willow Valley Water Co., In	c.
8	Janice Alward, Chief Counsel Legal Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSI	ON ·
9	1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007	
10		
11	Steve Olea, Director Utilities Division	ONI
12	ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSI 1200 West Washington Street	ON ,
13	Phoenix, AZ 85007	
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## EXHIBIT 1 1 AFFIDAVIT OF PROOF OF MAILING Docket No. W-01732A-09-0182 2 3 STATE OF ARIZONA 4 ) <sub>SS</sub>. 5 County of Maricopa б 7 I, Graham Symmonds, states as follows: 8 1. I am the Senior Vice President Regulatory Affairs & Compliance for Global 9 Water Resources. 10 2. I certify that a copy of the attached notice, pursuant to Procedural Order 11 issued August 19, 2009 in W-01732A-09-0182 was mailed via U.S. First-Class Mail on August 12 27, 2009 to all customers of the Willow Valley Water Company. 13 14 15 Graham Symmonds 16 17 SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me by Graham Symmonds, this 18 19 August, 2009. 20 21 Notary Public 22 My Commission Expires: 7/10/2012 23 JENNIE L. PEREZ 24 Hotary Public - Arizona Maricopa County 25 26 27

DECISION NO. \_

# PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF WILLOW VALLEY WATER CO., INC. FOR FINANCING APPROVAL IN CONNECTION WITH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT ("ARRA") OF 2009. (DOCKET NO. W-01732A-09-0182)

Summary of Application
On April 17, 2009, Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. ("Willow Valley" or "Company"), a subsidiary of Global Water, filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application in the above-captioned docket seeking approval to incur long-term indebtedness.

Willow Valley is seeking a \$435,000 Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona ("WIFA") loan for the purposes of replacing water meters in its service territory. Willow Valley anticipates receiving \$174,000, or forty percent (40%) of the loan amount, as forgivable principal reducing the effective amount of the loan to \$261,000. The forgivable principal is contingent upon compliance with the ARRA. A 20-year amortizing loan at approximately 5.25 percent per annum is anticipated.

The Commission Staff recommends an interim rate surcharge to generate additional funds needed to achieve the minimum debt service coverage ratio recommended by Commission Staff. If authorized, this surcharge would be collected monthly from the date of the Commission's Order of the application, until eliminated at the completion of the Company's general rate filing currently under review at the Commission (Docket No. W-01732A-09-0079). The additional monthly charge for a customer served by a 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch meter is estimated to be \$3.67.

How You Can View or Obtain a Copy of the Application
Copies of the application and proposed Surcharge are available for public inspection during regular business hours at Global Water's offices, 21410 N. 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 201, Phoenix, AZ 85027 (623) 580-9600 and at the Commission's Docket Control Center at 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona. Electronic copies may be obtained from the Commission's website (www.azcc.gov) using the e-Docket function.

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Hearing Information

The Commission may hold a formal hearing on this matter, or it may conduct an informal hearing. If a formal hearing is scheduled, you will be informed of the date and time in advance. Public comments will be taken on the first day of hearing. If an informal hearing is scheduled, it will take place as part of a Commission Open Meeting. Agendas for Commission Open Meetings are available on the Commission's website (www.azcc.gov).

Public comments can be provided in this matter by contacting the Consumer Services Section at the number below or may be submitted in writing by mailing a letter referencing Docket No. W-01732A-09-0182 to Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007, or by email. For a form to use and instructions on how to email comments to the Commission, go to http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/utilities/fomis/publiccomment.pdf. If you require assistance, you may contact Consumer Services Section at 602-542-4251 or 1-800-222-7000.

**About Intervention** 

The law provides for an open public hearing at which, under appropriate circumstances, interested parties may intervene. Any person or entity entitled by law to intervene and having a direct and substantial interest in the matter will be permitted to intervene. If you wish to intervene, you must file an original and 13 copies of a written motion to intervene with the Commission no later than September 11, 2009, and send a copy of the motion to Global Water or its counsel and to all parties of record. Your motion to intervene must contain the following:

- 1. Your name, address, and telephone number, and the name, address, and telephone number of any party upon whom service of documents is to be made, if not yourself;
- 2. A short statement of your interest in the proceeding (e.g., a customer of Willow Valley, a shareholder of Willow Valley, etc.); and
- 3. A statement certifying that you have mailed a copy of the motion to intervene to Willow Valley or its counsel and to all parties of record in the case.

The granting of motions to intervene shall be governed by A.A.C. R14-3-105, except that all motions to intervene must be filed on or before September 11, 2009. If representation by counsel is required by Rule 31 of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court, intervention will be conditioned upon the intervenor obtaining counsel to represent the intervenor. For information about requesting intervention, visit the Commission's website at <a href="http://www.azcc.govidivisions/utilities/forms/interven.pdf">http://www.azcc.govidivisions/utilities/forms/interven.pdf</a>.

The granting of intervention, among other things, entitles a party to present sworn evidence at hearing and to cross-examine other witnesses. However, failure to intervene will not preclude any interested person or entity from appearing at the hearing and providing public comment on the application or from filing written comments in the record of the case.

ADA/Equal Access Information

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, as well as request this document in an alternative format, by contacting the ADA Coordinator, Shaylin Bernal, E-mail sbemal@azcc.gov, voice phone number (602) 542-3931. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

# **Proof of Publication**

STATE OF ARIZONA County of Mohave

Linda Delano, being first duly sworn, says that during the publication of the notice, as herein mentioned, he/she was and now is the LEGAL CLERK of the MOHAVE VALLEY DAILY NEWS, six times weekly newspaper published on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of each and every week at the city of Bullhead City, in said county.

That said newspaper was printed and published as aforesaid on the following dates, to-wit:

August 23, 2009

## That the PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF WILLOW VALLEY WATER CO., INC

Of which the annex copy is a printed and true copy, was printed and inserted in each and every copy of said newspaper printed and published on the dates aforesaid, and in the body of said newspaper and not in a supplement thereto.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25 day

(My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_\_ (O\_\_\_\_

LAURA J SULLIVAN Notary Public - Arizona Mohave County My Comm. Expires Oct 2, 2012 DECISION NO

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF WILLOW VALLEY WATER CO., INC. REINVESTMENT ACT NO. W-01732A-09-0182)

Summary of Application

On April 17, 2009, Willow Valley Water Company, Inc. ("Willow Valley" or "Company"), a subsidiary of Global Water, filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application in the above-captioned docket seeking approval to incur long-term indebtedness.

Willow Valley is seeking a \$435,000 Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona ("WIFA") loan for the purposes of replacing water meters in its service territory. Willow Valley anticipates receiving \$174,000, or forty percent (40%) of the loan amount, as forgivable principal reducing the effective amount of the loan to \$261,000. The forgivable principal is contingent upon compliance with the ARRA. A 20-year amortizing loan at approximately 5.25 percent per annum is anticipated.

The Commission Staff recommends an interim rate surcharge to generate additional funds needed to achieve the minimum debt service coverage ratio recommended by Commission Staff. If authorized, this surcharge would be collected monthly from the date of the Commission's Order of the application, until eliminated at the completion of the Company's general rate filing currently under review at the Commission (Docket No. W-01732A-09-0079): The additional monthly charge for a customer served by a 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch meter is estimated to be \$3.67.

How You Can View or Obtain a Copy of the Application

Copies of the application and proposed Surcharge are available for public inspection during regular business hours at Global Water's offices, 21410 N. 19th Avenue, Suite 201, Phoenix, AZ 85027 (623) 580-9600 and at the Commission's Docket Control Center at 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona. Electronic copies may be obtained from the Commission's website (www.azcc.gov) using the e-Docket function.

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Hearing Information The Commission may hold a formal hearing on this matter, or it may coring If a formal bearing is echadulad you

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<u>Arizona Corporation Commission Public Hearing Information</u>

The Commission may hold a formal hearing on this matter, or it may conduct an informal hearing. If a formal hearing is scheduled, you will be informed of the date and time in advance. Public comments will be taken on the first day of hearing. If an informal hearing is scheduled, it will take place as part of a Commission Open Meeting. Agendas for Commission Open Meetings are available on the Commission's website (<a href="https://www.azcc.gov">www.azcc.gov</a>).

Public comments can be provided in this matter by contacting the Consumer Services Section at the number below or may be submitted in writing by mailing a letter referencing Docket No. W-01732A-09-0182 to Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007, or by email. For a form to use and instructions on how to email comments to the Commission, go to <a href="http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/utilities/fomis/publiccomment.pdf">http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/utilities/fomis/publiccomment.pdf</a>. If you require assistance, you may contact Consumer Services Section at 602-5424251 or 1-800-222-7000.

**About Intervention** 

The law provides for an open public hearing at which, under appropriate circumstances, interested parties may intervene. Any person or entity entitled by law to intervene and having a direct and substantial interest in the matter will be permitted to intervene. If you wish to intervene, you must file an original and 13 copies of a written motion to intervene with the Commission no later than **September 11, 2009,** and send a copy of the motion to Global Water or its counsel and to all parties of record. Your motion to intervene must contain the following:

- Your name, address, and telephone number, and the name, address, and telephone number of any party upon whom service of documents is to be made, if not yourself;
- 2. A short statement of your interest in the proceeding (e.g. a.customer of Willow Valley, a shareholder of Willow Valley, etc.), and
- A statement certifying that you have mailed a copy of the motion to intervene to Willow Valley or its counsel and to all parties of record in the case.

The granting of motions to intervene shall be governed by A.A.C. R14-3-105, except that <u>all motions to intervene must be filed on or before September 11, 2009.</u> If representation by counsel is required by Rule 31 of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court, intervention will be conditioned upon the intervenor obtaining counsel to represent the intervenor. For information about requesting intervention, visit the Commission's website at <a href="http://www.azcc.govidivisions/utilities/forms/interven.pdf">http://www.azcc.govidivisions/utilities/forms/interven.pdf</a>.

The granting of intervention, among other things, entitles a party to present sworn evidence at hearing and to cross-examine other witnesses. However, failure to intervene will not preclude any interested person or entity from appearing at the hearing and providing public comment on the application or from filing written comments in the record of the case.

**ADA/Equal Access Information** 

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, as well as request this document in an alternative format, by contacting the ADA Coordinator, Shaylin Bernal, E-mail bemal@azcc.gov, voice phone number (602) 542-3931. Requests

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### EXHIBIT 2

Willow Valley Water Company Docket No. W-01732A-09-0182 Application For Financing Schedule JCM-3

## CALGULATION OF SURCHARGE AMOUNT

Incremental Revenue Requirement for a \$435,000 Loan				· \$	80,443	
Total Bill Equivalents					21,930	
Surcharge - 5/8 x 3/4-inch Meter Surcharge - 3/4-inch Meter Surcharge - 1-inch Meter Surcharge - 1.5-inch Meter Surcharge - 2-inch Meter Surcharge - 3-inch Meter Surcharge - 4-inch Meter Surcharge - 6-inch Meter	* * * * * * * *	3.67 3.67 3.67 3.67 3.67 3.67 3.67 3.67	x 1 x 1.5 x 2.5 x 5 x 8 x 16 x 25 x 50	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	3.67 5.50 9.17 18.34 29.35 58.69 91.70 183.41	

				Annual			
Meter	Number of	AWWA	Meter	Bill	N	/lonthly	Yearly
Size	Customers	Multiplier	Equivalents	Equivalents	St	ırcharge	Surcharge
5/8" x 3/4" Meter	1518	1	1518	18,216	\$5	,568.28	\$ 66,819.41
3/4" Meter	13	1.5	19.5	234	\$	71.53	858.35
1" Meter	16	2.5	40	480	\$	146.73	1,760.72
1 1/2" Meter	2	5	10	120	\$	36.68	440.18
•	3	8	24	288	\$	88.04	1,056.43
2" Meter	1	16	16	192	\$	58.69	704.29
3" Meter	2	25	50	600	\$	183.41	2,200.90
4" Meter	3	50	150	1,800	\$	550.23	6,602.71
6" Meter TOTAL	1558		1827.5	21,930			\$ 80,443.00

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As of December, 2008.